

	AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY					
	Title:	Discussion Regarding Approach Sidewalk Maintenance Responsibility				
	Presenter:	Mark Koenen				
Please check appropriate box:						
	Government Operations	X	Government Services 10.24.11			
	Planning & Development		City Council			
	Public Hearing					
Estimated Cost:		Budgeted:	YES		NO	
If NO, please explain how item will be funded:						
Executive Summary:						
<p>Recently, a resident contacted staff and elected officials regarding the responsibility for replacing a section of sidewalk approach walk in front of their home. The resident was informed that sidewalk approach walk maintenance is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. The resident believes the City should be responsible as the walk exists in the public right-of-way. This agenda item was requested by Ald. Stellato to allow for discussion regarding the responsibility for sidewalk approach walk maintenance/repair/replacement.</p> <p>The Municipal Code refers to the sidewalk approach walk as “sidewalk, approach type”. The definition of “sidewalk, approach type” from the Municipal Code is “A parkway structure intended for pedestrian use usually extending from the curbing or edge of pavement right-of-way. This approach sidewalk is intended primarily for the private convenience of the adjacent lot or parcel.” Code discusses maintenance of sidewalk, approach type in section 12.04.217-C and it reads “It is the responsibility of the owner of the lot or parcel privately served by a sidewalk, approach type, to maintain and repair such sidewalk, approach type.”</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- The City has not maintained sidewalk approach walk historically. The City does replace sidewalk approaches due to damage caused by action of the City (e.g., repair on an underground utility). This is not the case with the current request for replacement. 2- The City practice for sidewalk approach walk maintenance is considered a private responsibility. This is consistent with City practice regarding driveway apron maintenance/repair and mailbox maintenance/repair. In both cases, but for the adjacent property owner having the need or desire for the driveway apron, mailbox or sidewalk approach walk, this parkway use would not exist. 3- Public Works does not have an inventory of sidewalk approach walks and we do not have knowledge of the condition of same. Staff does know that there are a variety of sizes and shapes of sidewalk approach walks throughout the traditional neighborhoods of St. Charles. Additionally, there are many homes that do not have a sidewalk approach walk that may desire one, if it becomes a responsibility of the city. Should the Committee want to pursue this matter, staff would suggest we consider the cost implications on the budget for this new service. 						
Attachments: (please list)						
Color Photos						
Recommendation / Suggested Action (briefly explain):						
Committee discussion, feedback and direction						
For office use only:		Agenda Item Number: 3.r				



